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County Executive

ANDREA VAN ARSDALE, Director
Department of Planning

Baltimore County Agriculture Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING: November 8, 2017 Board Meeting – 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm @ The Baltimore County Center for Maryland Agriculture, 1114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030

BOARD MEETING AT THE BALTIMORE COUNTY CENTER FOR MARYLAND AGRICULTURE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Merryman, Scott Welsh, Stephen Myer, Gail Ensor, Russell Berk

OTHERS PRESENT: Wally Lippincott (Staff), Kaylee Justice (Staff), Harriet & Wayne McGinnis via telephone (landowners)

INTRODUCTION: The meeting was opened at 5:05 pm by Gail Ensor

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/ADDITION OR DELETION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Approval of Minutes of: October 11, 2017

Motion: To approve minutes of October 11, 2017

Motion by: John Merryman

Second by: Steve Myer

Decision: Unanimous Approval

B. Addition or Deletion of Agenda Items.

Addition of the Cornwell Property- **Cornwell, Kim & John (03-97-02E) – 4401 Black Rock Road, Upperco 55.83+/- acres**

II. MALPF EASEMENT LANDOWNER REQUESTS/ISSUES

A. McGinnis, Harriet & Wayne (03-80-06A) – 19524 Graystone Road, White Hall 477.59+/- acres

Request- Board review of reconfiguration of retroactive agricultural subdivision request.

Background: The McGinnis' subdivided their farm without approval and after being notified of the "violation", submitted a request for an agricultural subdivision. The request was brought to the BCLPAB meeting on March 8 where it was recommended for approval by the Board. Since then, the McGinnis' have changed the request asking to divide the farm into 3 easements. They have also been working to address MALPF requirements.

The McGinnis' are now proposing to subdivide the farm 3 ways in lieu of the previously requested 2. The 477.59 acre farm will be split into 3 parcels; the main farm containing 259 +/- acres, the second (Ensor A) containing 161 +/- acres, and the third (Ensor B) containing 59 +/- acres. All resulting properties will be owned and worked by the McGinnis Family.

DISCUSSION: Wally Lippincott (Staff) gave an overview of the request. Over the phone, Harriet McGinnis (landowner) elaborated on the request stating that all portions of the subdivision would continue to be utilized for agriculturally related purposes.

Motion: The Board recommends approval of the Agricultural Subdivision of the easement into 3 separate farms.

Motion by: John Merryman
Decision: Unanimous Approval

Second by: Steve Myer

B. Cornwell, Kim & John (03-97-02E) – 4401 Black Rock Road, Upperco 55.83+/- acres

Request- Board review of reconfiguration of retroactive agricultural subdivision request.

Background: The Cornwell's recently acquired a .79 acre piece of land that was previously owned by the adjacent property owner (the Cole family) as part of a MALPF requirement for a 1 acre child lot land exchange. The Cornwell's wish to acquire an additional .71 acres (adjacent to the recently acquired .72 acre piece) to continue to use the land for pasture. The Cornwell's are requesting Board review and recommendation of approval for the lot line adjustment to add the .71 acres to their farm. The .71 acres will not be placed under easement.

DISCUSSION: Wally Lippincott (Staff) gave an overview of the request. The Board found the request to be for agricultural purposes.

Motion: The Board recommends approval of the Agricultural Subdivision request for agricultural purposes.

Motion by: Steve Myer **Second by: Scott Welsh**
Decision: Unanimous Approval

III. BALTIMORE COUNTY EASEMENT/LANDOWNER REQUESTS/ ISSUES

A. Uhler, Bernard & Eula- 5900 Mt. Gilead Rd, Reisterstown 127.34+/- acres

Request – Board review and recommendation of Ag Subdivision Request

Background: The Uhler's are requesting Board review and consideration of an agricultural subdivision request on their property. The landowners have operated the farm for over 30 years and intend to submit an application for the upcoming cycle of the MALPF program. Before submitting the easement application, the landowners would like to subdivide 1.5 acres surrounding the second house off of the property. In addition to the subdivision, the landowners are adding a 1.378 acre parcel to the farm. The Development Review Committee has received this request and has referred approval to the BCLPAB.

The property is used to grow corn, soybeans, and hay on a rotating basis and is leased out to an area farmer for operation. There will be no decrease in the area being farmed as the area being taken out is not currently used for agricultural production. Plan to be provided at meeting.

DISCUSSION: Wally Lippincott (Staff) gave an overview of the request. The Board found the request to be for Agricultural purposes.

Motion: The Board recommends approval of the Agricultural Subdivision request for agricultural purposes.

Motion by: John Merryman **Second by: Scott Welsh**
Decision: Unanimous Approval

IV. PROGRAM POLICY

A. Certification Report

Request- Board approval of the Application for Recertification of the Baltimore County Agricultural Land Preservation Program.

Motion: The Board accepts the certification report.

Motion by: Steve Myer **Second by: Russell Berk**
Decision: Unanimous Approval

V. FUTURE MEETING DATES

The next scheduled meeting date is January 10, 2018

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To Adjourn the Board meeting (@ 5:45pm)

Motion by: John Merryman Second by: Steve Myer

Decision: Unanimous Approval